

**To:** Phillips, Pam[phillips.pam@epa.gov]; Petersen, Chris[petersen.chris@epa.gov]; Webster, Susan[webster.susan@epa.gov]; Loesel, Matthew[loesel.matthew@epa.gov]; Foster, Althea[Foster.Althea@epa.gov]; Martin, John[martin.john@epa.gov]  
**From:** Smith, Monica  
**Sent:** Tue 8/18/2015 1:09:23 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent request: Tribal engagement in the spill

As a result of the GKM spill, on August 9, 2015, EPA established Area Command in Durango, Colorado to facilitate a joint response between EPA Regions 6, 8, and 9. On August 6, the New Mexico Environment Department's Drinking Water Bureau recommended all drinking water intakes Animas and San Juan River to be closed. The Governors of Colorado and New Mexico declared on a state of emergency on August 10. The Navajo Nation President issued a declaration on a state of emergency.

On August 6, EPA Region 6 began sampling the Animas and San Juan River pre-slug to capture pre-contamination conditions in the rivers. On August 8, the Region began collecting post slug samples in the rivers. Sediment sampling began on August 10 and continues at 9 locations along the intakes. EPA sampled private drinking water wells from August 10 -15. On August 11, EPA began providing water for agricultural/livestock use and, to date, EPA Region 6 has provided over 1 million gallons of water for agricultural/livestock use. To date, EPA Region 6 has provided 229 bales of hay and 15 bales of alfalfa. On August 13 -16, EPA Region 6 sampled the irrigation ditches to assess the conditions of the ditches prior to them being flushed in preparation for use.

The population served by the 9 drinking water systems in New Mexico impacted by the release is over 80,000 people. EPA Region 6 worked with the water systems operators to determine the capacity of the systems prior to the reopening of the intakes. Upon hearing that the town of Morningstar had less than 48 hours of stored water available, Region 6, acted quickly to mobilize a temporary pump to facilitate an emergency connection between Farmington and Morningstar. R6 also provided raw water to Morningstar as an emergency stop gap measure.

**From:** Coleman, Sam  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 4:32 PM  
**To:** Phillips, Pam; Edlund, Carl  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent request: Tribal engagement in the spill

Can we propose responses

Samuel Coleman, P.E.  
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**From:** Strauss, Alexis  
**Sent:** 8/17/2015 3:12 PM  
**To:** Akinnusotu, Bunmi  
**Cc:** Coleman, Sam  
**Subject:** Re: Urgent request: Tribal engagement in the spill

We have one affected tribe...Navajo. Region 6 or 8 have the Southern Ute tribe.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 17, 2015, at 12:55 PM, Akinnusotu, Bunmi <[Akinnusotu.Bunmi@epa.gov](mailto:Akinnusotu.Bunmi@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi, Alexis

My apologies for this very last minute request during a time that I know is very busy.

Tomorrow, Mathy will be in Minneapolis to speak with tribal reps at the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum. He would like to be prepared to address questions regarding how EPA/regions has been engaging with tribes in addressing the spill. Could you please help me develop responses that address the following:

1. How did notification of the tribes occur/how did we bring them in to unified command?
2. Which tribes were notified and what tribes are participating in unified command?
3. Are there any issues you think he should be prepared to discuss? The Navajo nation will be there.
4. Any other pertinent facts/success stories you think Mathy could raise regarding tribal engagement.

If we could have it before COB today, that'd be great. If there's an easier way like a call, to get this we can get something arranged. After we get this information, I will be sharing it with our folks internally, OITA and OW. Please let me know if you have any questions or need clarification. I can be reached at 202.760.0728.

Regards,

Bunmi

Sent from my Windows Phone